

**COURT REPORTERS BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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As you are aware, this past year the Court Reporters Board (Board) was faced with many challenges. The Board utilized its many resources to face and defeat these challenges sought by Governor Schwarzenegger and his current administration. With the Sunset Review, the California Performance Review and the threat to veto SB 229 (the sunset bill) we have been extremely busy trying to communicate the need to this administration to continue the licensure of reporters, protect the Transcript Reimbursement Fund (TRF), and maintain the structure of the Board in its statute-mandated form.

A large part of this effort has been the cooperation of interested parties, licensees and association membership to ensure that the abilities of the Board to provide effective testing, licensing and enforcement are not diluted by the current administration. We intend to continue our relationship with our licensees and look forward to additional discussions of court reporting trends in the future.

One of the other changes this past year was the majority displacement of the membership of the Board. The downside of the recent membership change is the lack of a quorum to conduct Board meetings and to vote on policy issues. The Board did conduct elections at the last meeting and elected Dr. John Hisserich as Vice-Chair and me as Chair to provide direction of our operations. Nothing else has changed; this Board will remain proactive in its abilities that it is afforded.

We are not sitting idly by waiting for a full quorum to address issues of concern to the Board. We are not slowing in our quest to continue aggressively responding to consumer complaints, disciplinary issues and informational items. Consumer complaints and disciplinary issues are delegated by regulations to the Executive Officer, David Brown, and are continuing to be investigated and acted on based on the merits of the investigation. Informational items of interest to the Board will be considered through the formation of active committees. To this end, I have asked Mr. Brown to establish the following committees to review and make recommendations for policy consideration by the Board:

Community Development Committee—To consider methods to address a shortage of reporters and to communicate Board policies, licensing requirements and testing information to the industry. This committee will also address methods to reach out to the community and the consumer to educate and inform them of the profession of court reporting.

Education Committee – To address school oversight issues, student issues with examinations, Board regulations and technology changes to the industry.

Legislation Committee – To develop statutory recommendations for the Board.

Additional information concerning Board Committee's can be found at our website, <http://www.courtreportersboard.ca.gov/about/committees.htm>. Individuals interested in serving on a committee can email Mr. Brown directly at mailto:david_brown@dca.ca.gov to indicate their interest. The Board will collect names and contact all individuals to provide additional details on the committee makeup and meeting commitments.

Be assured that the Board is continuing in its daily operations. I personally am in contact with Mr. Brown on a regular basis. I have met with Mr. Brown on several occasions, have written letters in response to the issues facing SB 229 (see website) and will continue to be an active member of the Board.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Gotelli, Chair
Court Reporters Board